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feel highly gratified at this. There is more in the manner I have been appointed than in the office. I forward my resignation to the Governor by to-night's mail, and write to the Speaker taking leave of the House. To-morrow morning I enter on an untried ("field," I was about to say, but I must now be more nautical, and I will, therefore, say) ocean of difficulties. I will do my duty to the country, and trust in heaven to guide my poor judgment for the public good. The longer I live the more do I bow down before infinite wisdom and mercy and feel my total want of strength, wisdom and virtue to do my duty without the aid of Him who has blessed me to reach beyond what I ever did or can deserve. You may imagine that I am relieved by being out of the turmoil of a heartless contest with my opinions. I am too little of a partisan to be a politician. I know it, and I wish to retire with credit if I can next month. Mrs. G. takes the Secretaryship—tell Cousin C., as she does everything else—quite calmly. We shall live with the salary in a plain way. The Navy Department is incomparably the most difficult and responsible of all, and may become one of very great responsibility in a short time. I preferred the War, but the wish was so universal for me to take the other that I yielded. God bless you all.

Very truly in haste your friend,

THOMAS W. GILMER.

OBITUARY OF REV. THOMAS DAWSON.

[*Taken from the Maryland Gazette, January 8, 1761.*]

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., *December 5th.*

On Saturday last died the Honourable and Rev. Thomas Dawson, one of his Majesty's Honourable Council, commissary for the Lord Bishop of London, president of the College of William and Mary and minister of Bruton Parish, a man eminently adorned with Moderation, Meekness, Forgiveness, Patience and Long-suffering and a most extensive and unlimited Benevolence and Charity. These Virtues rendered him beloved by his friends in his Life and regretted in his death, and if it be possible for these great qualifications to be carried to an excess that may be said to be the error of his life. Yet this amiable Disposition, this noble Life of truly Christian Talents could not secure him from the attacks of his Enemies, for it is much to be feared he fell a Victim to the repeated marks of Ingratitude and Malice, which he, unhappy man, too frequently experienced in his Passage through his state of Probation.